[26th November 1949

(4) THE MADRAS TENANTS AND RYOTS PROTECTION BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 29 OF 1949).

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill* [a], *1949 (L.A. Bill No. 29 of 1949), as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once*'.

Sir, an Ordinance has been passed due to certain decisions of the Madras High Court and this Bill has been brought forward on the same terms as this Ordinance VII of 1949. It was originally intended to protect the tenants and ryots and the various provisions of the Bill have been discussed in this House before and there is not much to add now."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill [a], 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 29 of 1949), as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once'."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I want to make one suggestion to the Government. This measure is taken up only pending further legislation. The Government want to make temporary legislation for protection of tenants. I want them to examine the question whether it is not economically wise to perpetuate good relations between landlord and tenant. I consider that asking the tenants to pay rents is not a proposition which is economically sound. In my opinion, what the Government should do is to give an opportunity to the tenant to purchase the rights of the intermediaries and become the owners of the lands. By so doing, the Government will enable the tenant to save what is lost in collection agencies and otherwise and put it into an Annuity Fund so that by paying almost the same rent, the tenant will be able to purchase all the land for cultivation. This aspect has been explained by me on a former occasion, and if the Government do this, there would be good production. Then there will not be the question of the relationship of the landlord and tenant being disturbed. Let all the tenants become owners of the land. Sir, hereafter, co-operative societies are to take up the functions of the landlords. They must help the tenants in every way. Twenty years ago, in Malabar this was the case and we had good production. The aim of any agrarian reform must be to get the largest output from the land and this can be achieved only when you have an independent cultivators. Hence I request the Government to take this aspect into consideration when they take up permanent legislation.

" Sir, it is a pity that even in this temporary legislation which is pending further legislation, the Government must take powers to remove difficulties. It is too much to have such provisions in the Bill. Then, why not the Government say that they can do what

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a Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 694–698 infra.

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they like and nobody can question them. In that case, let them abolish the Legislature and let the executive alone function. Let them take still more powers. Sir, I think that it is not a compliment to this House or to the Government or to the party to say that 'we will introduce a provision in this Bill which will give power to the executive to remove difficulties.' I submit, Sir, that such a provision ought not to find a place in a legislation of this type."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, the suggestion made regarding the relationship between the tenants and the landlords along with other valuable suggestions made by hon. Members are being examined, and I am sure that due and necessary weight will be given to these suggestions. My own feeling in the matter is that it is not so simple as the hon. Members have tried to make out. I do not want to enter into the details of the difficulties at this stage. I know that there would be a proper time and place for it when I will do that; then, the hon. Members will also have an opportunity of expressing their views once again.

" My hon. Friend was referring to the saving clause. But I may say that there is nothing new about it. This clause is there in every Act. The House knows that this is a provision that is intended to see that the Act works without much difficulty, in the interests of the people for whose benefit it is being enacted. So, I hope the hon. Member would not object to that particular clause in view of the fact that it is intended for the benefit of the poor people."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 29 of 1949), as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once'."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were then put and carried.

Clause 1 and the preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill*, 1949 (*L.A. Bill No.* 29 *of* 1949) *as passed by the Legislative Assembly be passed into law*'."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'that the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 29 of 1949) as passed by the Legislative Assembly be passed into law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.